## VII-B Electronic Structure and Reactivity of Metal Cluster Complexes

Because trimetal cluster complex is a fundamental framework for constructing high nuclearity cluster, electronic structure and reactivity of trimetal cluster complex is important. We have studied the electronic structure and reactivity of bis( $\mu_3$ -benzylidyne)tris(cyclopentadienylcobalt) complex. It reacts halogens and silver(I) to give halide and silver bridged complexes.

## VII-B-1 Synthesis, Structure and Redox Behavior of Tricobalt Cluster with Capping Benzylidyne and Bridging halogen $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2(\mu-X)]^+$ (X = Cl, Br, I)

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Reactions of the benzylidyne capped tricobalt cluster  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2]$  (1) with halogens (X<sub>2</sub> = Cl<sub>2</sub>, Br<sub>2</sub>, I<sub>2</sub>) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> gave oxidative addition products of halogen to 1. X-ray structures of four salts,  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2(\mu-$ Cl)]PF<sub>6</sub>·CH<sub>3</sub>CN ( $2^+$ PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-·</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>CN), [Co<sub>3</sub>Cp<sub>3</sub>( $\mu_3$ -CPh)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu_-$ Br)]SbF<sub>6</sub> (**3**<sup>+</sup>SbF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>), [Co<sub>3</sub>Cp<sub>3</sub>(µ<sub>3</sub>-CPh)<sub>2</sub>(µ-I)]SbF<sub>6</sub>·CH<sub>2</sub>- $Cl_2$  (4+SbF<sub>6</sub>-·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) and [Co<sub>3</sub>Cp<sub>3</sub>(µ<sub>3</sub>-CPh)<sub>2</sub>(µ-I)]I<sub>3</sub>  $(4^+I_3^-)$  were determined. In all structures the halogen atom was in the Co<sub>3</sub> plane. The halogen-bridged Co-Co distance was elongated ( $2^+PF_6^-CH_3CN$ : 2.6072(5) Å, **3**<sup>+</sup>SbF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>: 2.6097(9) Å, **4**<sup>+</sup>SbF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: 2.621(2) Å) and the Co-Co distances without halogen-bridge remained unchanged (2+PF<sub>6</sub>-: 2.4038(9) and 2.3947(7) Å, **3**<sup>+</sup>SbF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>: 2.3902(8) and 2.4015(9) Å, **4**<sup>+</sup>SbF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>·CH<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>2</sub>: 2.392(2) and 2.388(2) Å) from that of **1** (2.38 Å). Cyclic voltammogram of  $2^+PF_6^-$  in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> with 0.1 M *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte showed an quasireversible oxidation (+0.75 V, potential vs Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>) and an irreversible reduction wave (-0.57 V) (Figure 1). The irreversible reduction caused recovery of neutral cluster complex 1. The redox properties of  $3^+$  and  $4^+$  were similar to that of  $2^+$ . Cyclic voltammetry of 1 in 0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NCl/CH<sub>3</sub>CN with various scan rates indicated that the formation of  $2^+$  was a multi-step reaction. First 1 was oxidized to  $1^+$  and it was coordinated by Cl<sup>-</sup> and immediately oxidized to  $2^+$ .



**Figure 1.** Cyclic voltammograms of **1** (2.0 mM) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN with 0.1 M *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NCl. Scan rate (a) 10 mVs<sup>-1</sup>, (b) 100 mVs<sup>-1</sup> and (c) 500 mVs<sup>-1</sup> with cyclic voltammograms of **1** (2.0 mM) in 0.1 M *n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> (broken line).

VII-B-2 Bis- $\mu_3$ -Benzylidyne Tri(cyclopentadienylcobalt) Cluster with Edge-bridging Silver(I): Synthesis, Structure and Solution Properties of [Co<sub>3</sub>Cp<sub>3</sub>( $\mu_3$ -CPh)<sub>2</sub>{ $\mu$ -Ag(X)}] (X = CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>) and [Co<sub>3</sub>Cp<sub>3</sub>( $\mu_3$ -CPh)<sub>2</sub>{ $\mu$ -Ag-(NCCH<sub>3</sub>)}]PF<sub>6</sub>

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Reactions of the benzylidyne capped tricobalt cluster  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2]$  (1) with various silver salts are examined. The salts of weakly- or non-coordinating anions  $(BF_4^-, PF_6^-)$  oxidize 1 to its cationic radical  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2]^+$  (1<sup>+</sup>) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The reaction with the salts of strongly-coordinating anions  $(CF_3CO_2^-, NO_3^-)$  gives silver(I) adducts of 1,  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2-\{\mu-Ag(X)\}]$  (X = CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> (2, Figure 1), NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (3)). Even for AgBF<sub>4</sub> or AgPF<sub>6</sub> the reaction in CH<sub>3</sub>CN produces silver(I) adduct  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2\{\mu-Ag(NC_3^-)]^+$ 

CH<sub>3</sub>)]<sup>+</sup> (4<sup>+</sup>). The Co<sub>3</sub>Ag skeleton in structures of **2**, **3** and **4**<sup>+</sup> resembles each other. The Co–Co bonds bridged by the Ag atom (**2**: 2.4783(9) Å, **3**: 2.481(1) Å, **4**<sup>+</sup>: 2.4600(9) Å) are longer than that of **1** (2.38 Å). The other Co–Co bonds are slightly shorter than that in **1**. The Co<sub>2</sub>Ag triangle is not coplanar with the Co<sub>3</sub> triangle; the dihedral angles between these triangles for **2**, **3**, and **4**<sup>+</sup> are 162.7°, 157.8°, and 151.3°, respectively. Dissolution of **4**<sup>+</sup>PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> causes formation of **1**<sup>+</sup> with deposition of Ag metal. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **2** and **3** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> indicates partial dissociation of the AgX group. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of CD<sub>3</sub>CN solutions and the ESR spectra in frozen CH<sub>3</sub>CN solutions of **2**, **3**, and **4**<sup>+</sup>PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup> shows generation of **1**<sup>+</sup> without deposition of Ag metal. It suggests that equilibrium of Ag<sup>+</sup> and **1** with Ag<sup>0</sup> and **1**<sup>+</sup> is established in acetonitrile. Addition of AgO<sub>2</sub>CCF<sub>3</sub> to the solution causes disappearance of the ESR signal. It indicates that **1**<sup>+</sup> is generated from **4**<sup>+</sup> or the reaction of **1** with anion-uncoordinated Ag<sup>+</sup>.



Figure 1. Structure of  $[Co_3Cp_3(\mu_3-CPh)_2\{\mu-Ag(O_2CCF_3)\}]$ .